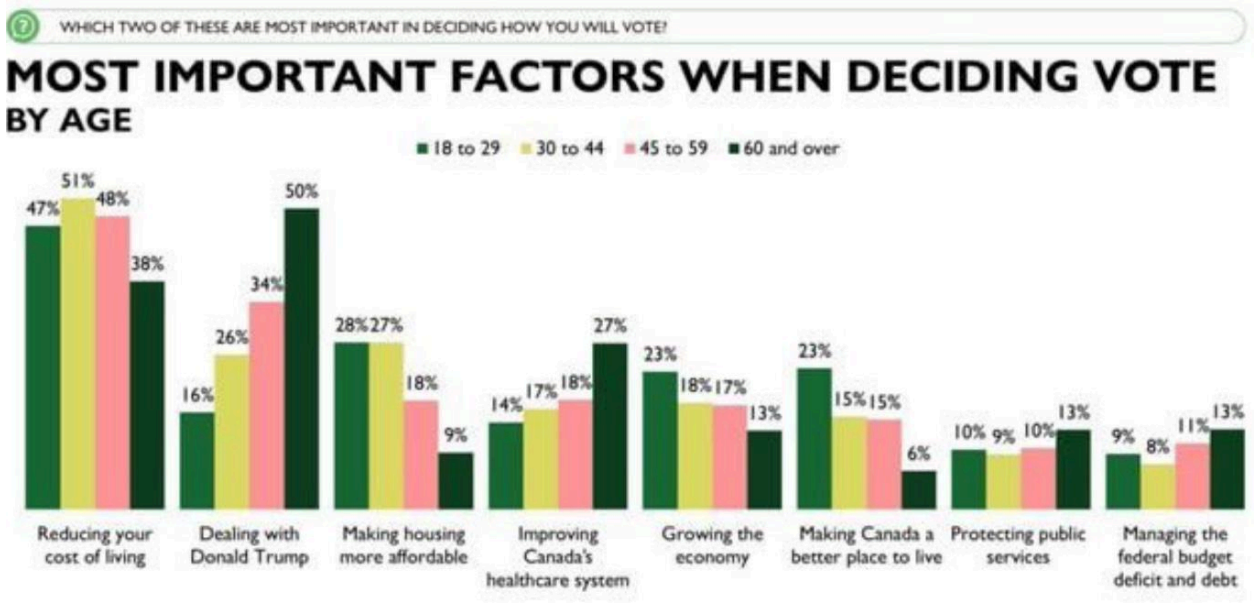
Recently, a polling chart from Abacus Data has been gaining attention on Xitter:



The chart show a string of issues of concern to voters, with the percentage that consider a particular issue to be among the most important broken down by age group.

And of these results, the results from the "Dealing with Donald Trump" column are especially significant.

For voters over the age of 60, 50% of them consider the Orange Man Question to be of utmost importance.

However, this drops to just 16% among the 18-29 age bracket.

But why is this?

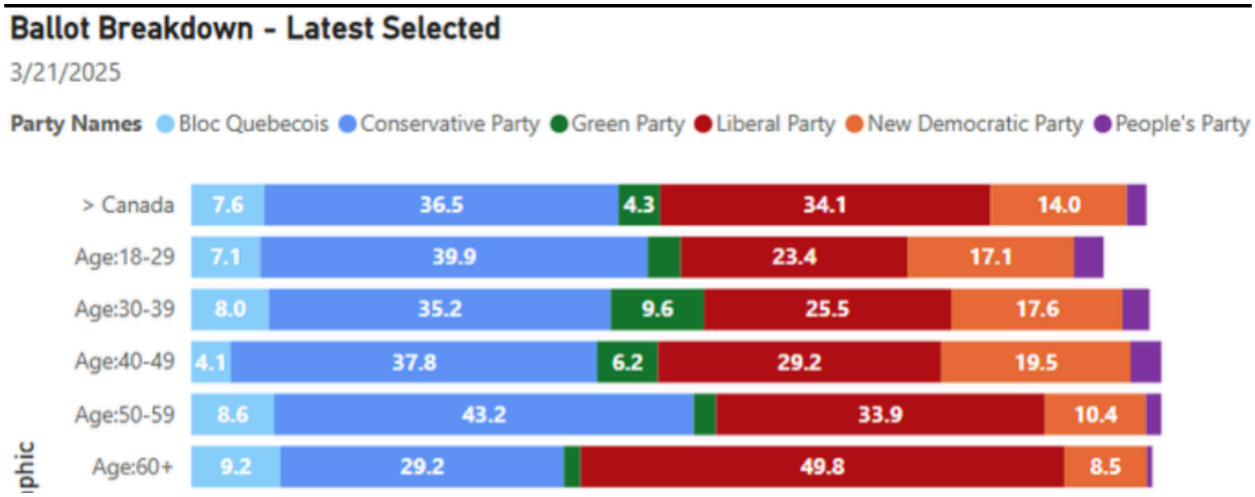
Other results on the chart may give us a clue.

28% of the under-30s consider “Making housing more affordable” to be a top issue, while just 9% of the over-60s say the same.

“Growing the economy” is a key priority for 23% of young people, but only 13% of older folks.

Perhaps most revealingly, 23% of the 18-29 bracket place “Making Canada a better place to live” in their top echelon— just 6% of seniors do the same.

On a similar note, here is a chart showing voting preferences broken down by age:



As you can see, Liberals lag behind with just 23.4% of the vote among the 18-29 demographic. Their support, however, increases to a whopping 49.8% with the 60+ crowd.

Next, let's take a look at the 2024 World Happiness Report. Canada comes in with an impressive 8th place finish among those over the age of 60:

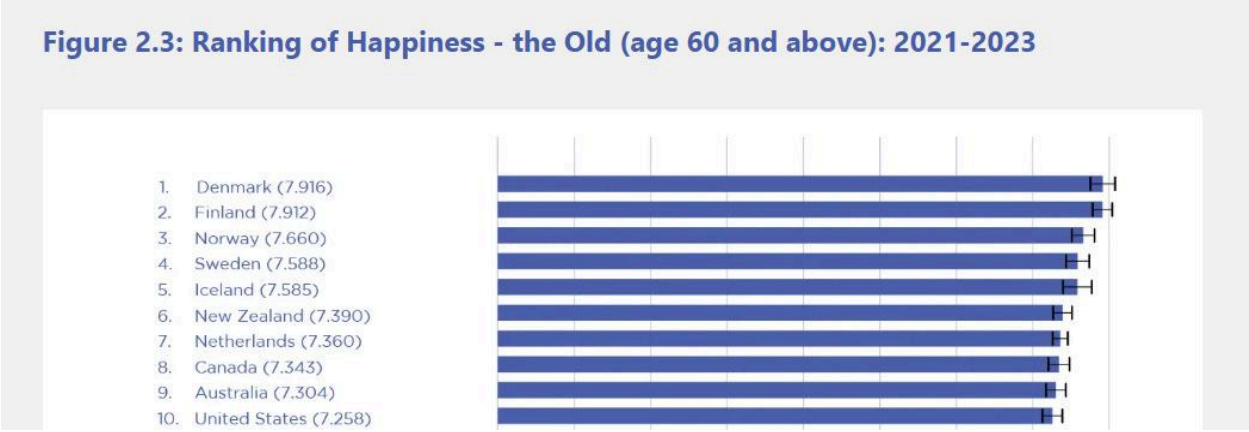
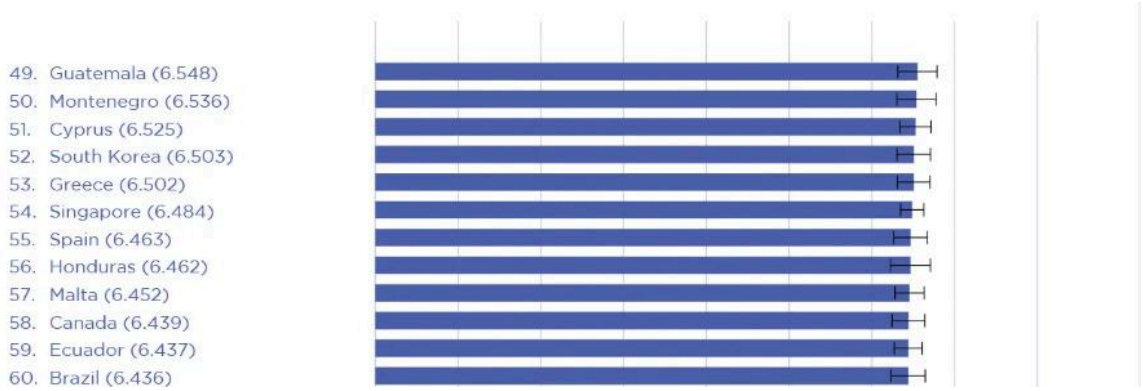


Figure 2.3: Ranking of Happiness - the Old (age 60 and above): 2021-2023
1. Denmark (7.916)
2. Finland (7.912)
3. Norway (7.660)
4. Sweden (7.588)
5. Iceland (7.585)
6. New Zealand (7.390)
7. Netherlands (7.360)
8. Canada (7.343)
9. Australia (7.304)
10. United States (7.258)

Yet Canada's ranking falls to a measly 58th place with young people, joining the company of third-world countries such as Guatemala, Honduras, and Ecuador:



Luxury Beliefs

The concept of "luxury beliefs" was coined by the psychologist and author Rob Henderson, and is generally defined as "ideas and opinions that confer status on the upper class, while often inflicting costs on the lower classes".

They are beliefs that make those who hold them feel sophisticated and high-class, and give them a non-material way of signaling that they are morally superior to the unwashed masses and plebians.

However, the implementation of these ideas into practice often causes great harm to those lower down in the status hierarchy.

In his book *Troubled,* Henderson explores how leftist ideas surrounding drug legalization, defunding the police, and family formation inflict a disproportionate degree of damage on working-class families. Meanwhile, the white upper-middle-class "progressives" largely responsible for the promulgation of these ideas remain unscathed.

Similarly, Trump's tariffs—while confounding and unjustified—have given rise to the Orange Man Question being the defining feature of Canadian politics. The tariff threats from the U.S. are, undoubtedly, of great concern to us. Yet the inflated importance of this issue in the Canadian political imagination—and the Trump Derangement Syndrome and jingoistic nationalism that accompany that inflated importance—can be seen as the product of a very secure and privileged class of people.

These are people who retired at the age of 53, own a cottage in the Muskoka region, live for three months of the year in timeshares in Boca

Raton or Palm Springs, and spend their mornings playing golf or pickleball. They are also perpetually glued to watching CBC, MSNBC, and CNN, whose talking points they mindlessly regurgitate without a hint of skepticism or self-awareness.

In 1988, they purchased a 3,000 square-foot house in an upper-middle-class suburb of Toronto for $250,000; today, that house is worth over $2 million.

They have enjoyed some of the best material conditions that anyone in all of human history has ever experienced, and expected to enjoy their sunset years living in the "end of history"—a unipolar world where capitalist democracy and the managerial state reign supreme.

For them, Donald Trump and the paradigm shift that came with his rise represent a fundamental threat to the established order they have lavishly benefited from, and are so keen on preserving. Their fervent opposition to Trump, and other populist-lite politicians like Pierre Poilievre, is borne out of a self-interested preservation of a system that helps them.

Yet, for them, publicly declaring their self-interest would be gauche and uncouth—something only *uneducated* plebians would do. This necessitates that they dress up their selfish and myopic position in a veil of moral outrage and indignation.

Pierre Poilievre doesn't just threaten to lower the price of their $2 million home by increasing housing supply and lowering immigration—no, he is a "far-right populist", a "fascist", a "radical extremist", an "existential threat to *our democracy*".

Therefore, their support for Mark Carney is an expression of their moral superiority that they can lord over their opponents. For, you see, they are on the "right side of history", which means their political preferences must always be correct.

Yet for all of their righteous grandstanding, these people remain hopelessly oblivious to the myriad of ways in which Canada has gone to hell in a handbasket over the past decade.

They haven't driven past the sprawling homeless encampments surrounding highway exits and overpasses.

They haven't noticed the twitching, mentally disturbed drug addicts lying on the sidewalk.

They barely glance at their grocery bill, as their government pensions can easily cover the cost of basic necessities.

And they never stopped to consider why there had been a marked increase in the number of stabbings done by criminals out on bail—in fact, they probably haven't even heard about the stabbings.

After all, if something isn't reported on by the CBC, it may as well not exist.

So they sit in their leather recliner and listen to Rosemary Barton and Chantal Hebert, continuing to swim in a soup of delusion and narcissism.

Meanwhile, their grandchildren live lives defined by misery and hardship.

One of their grandchildren lives in his parents' basement, and is unemployed due to the influx of Temporary Foreign Workers.

Another is looking to start a family, yet has to continuously delay family formation due to only being able to afford a 400 square foot apartment.

A third struggles with opioid addiction, is homeless, and is barely sentient most of the time. He spends his days (they might be numbered) slumped over next to a restaurant that shuttered during Covid and never reopened.

This is where the second part of the luxury beliefs concept comes in: the damage that these high-status beliefs can inflict on lower classes of people.

The boomers, by voting Liberal, will ensure the continuation of the disastrous social and economic policies of the last 10 years—policies that have immiserated their children and grandchildren.

Yet their material comfort and sense of smug self-satisfaction will blind them to this reality—and, by consequence, make the rest of us suffer.

Elbows up, hosers! Fight against the DOGE! Spray-paint swastikas on a swasticar! And above all, remember: Evil Orange Man drumpf!